



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



December 2003

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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OHIO, North

OHZ020>023-029>033-038 Medina - Summit - Portage - Trumbull - Richland - Ashland - Wayne - Stark - Mahoning - Holmes

05	0400EST	0	0	2.0M	Winter Storm
06	0100EST				

An area of low pressure moved east across southern Ohio on December 5th. Precipitation began during the early mornings hours of the 5th and ended around midnight on the 6th. The precipitation started as a mixture of freezing rain, sleet and snow at most locations. A quick transition to all snow occurred around daybreak. By 9 am a band of moderate snow had developed along the U.S. Route 30 corridor from Mansfield to Canton. The greatest snowfall rates occurred during the late afternoon and early evening hours as wrap around moisture from the low moved into the region. A total of 6 to 9 inches of snow was reported across the area with the greatest amounts along and just south of U.S. 30. Most locations also received a light glaze of ice from the freezing rain early in the storm. Significant traffic delays and numerous accidents resulted from this storm.

OHZ011>014-023

Cuyahoga - Lake - Geauga - Ashtabula - Trumbull

17	1600EST	0	0	2.4M	Heavy Snow
20	1600EST				

An upper level disturbance moved across Lake Erie and into northern Ohio on the evening of December 17th. This caused the light lake effect snow already falling to quickly intensify. By late evening a band of moderate to heavy snow stretched from Lake County eastward across southern Ashtabula and northern Trumbull counties and into Pennsylvania. Snowfall rates with this band exceeded two inches per hour. Accumulations of up to 14 inches were reported in Geauga County by daybreak on the 18th with 8 to 12 inches of accumulation in southern Ashtabula and northern Trumbull Counties. This activity diminished somewhat during the afternoon of the 18th, but not before another 4 to 8 inches of snow fell from Cuyahoga County eastward through the snowbelt. Scattered lake effect snow showers then persisted through the 20th. Thunder and lightning were observed in Cuyahoga County on the 19th. Total snowfall accumulations from the 17th through the 20th ranged from 12 to 15 inches in eastern Cuyahoga County to over two feet in portions of Geauga and Ashtabula Counties. A maximum of 26.1 inches was measured in northeastern Geauga County (Hamden Township). Hundreds of accidents and significant travel delays resulted from this prolonged event.

PENNSYLVANIA, Northwest

PAZ003

Crawford

05	0700EST	0	0	150K	Winter Storm
06	0300EST				

An area of low pressure moved east across southern Ohio and into Pennsylvania on December 5th. Precipitation began just before daybreak on the 5th and ended during the early morning hours of the 6th. Most of the precipitation fell as snow, but some sleet and freezing rain fell during the early stages of the storm. The greatest snowfall rates occurred during the late afternoon and early evening hours as wrap around moisture from the low moved into the region. A total of 6 to 8 inches of snow was reported in Crawford County with the highest amounts across the southern portion of the county. Numerous accidents resulted from this storm.

PAZ001>003

Northern Erie - Southern Erie - Crawford

17	1800EST	0	0	1M	Heavy Snow
20	1800EST				

An upper level disturbance moved across Lake Erie and into northwestern Pennsylvania on the evening of December 17th. This caused the light lake effect snow already falling to quickly intensify. By late evening a band of moderate to heavy snow stretched from Lake Erie across Northeast Ohio and into Erie and Crawford Counties. Snowfall rates with this band exceeded two inches per hour. Accumulations of 6 to 10 inches were reported by daybreak on the 18th. This activity diminished somewhat during the afternoon of the 18th, but not before another 4 to 8 inches of snow fell across northwestern Pennsylvania. Scattered lake effect snow showers continued to affect the area on the 19th and 20th. Total snowfall accumulations from the 17th through the 20th ranged from



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		Local/ Standard	Length (Miles)	Width (Yards)	Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

PENNSYLVANIA, Northwest

12 to nearly 18 inches. A maximum of 17.8 inches was measured at Corry in southeastern Erie County. Hundreds of accidents and significant travel delays resulted from this prolonged event.